



WEEKLY HERALD  
AND PHILANTHROPIST.

**Great Benevolence.**

The Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce is a remarkably benevolent being. He thinks that "the authority of the Executive to conquer all Mexico is very ample, under the act recognizing the existing war; and this authority, in his opinion, is to be used. As for revenge, or plunder, or punishment for past aggression, he will have none of it. A war waged for any of these purposes, would inspire him with no enthusiasm. He and our neighbor of the Enquirer belong to a class of belligerents, who may be styled, fighting philanthropists, powder-and-ball missionaries. A bombshell, they hold, is a great "reforming instrumentality." True, it may distribute divers human beings in all sorts of odd forms, through the air—headsless trunks, palpitating hearts, and dismembered limbs;—what of that? The sinner is blown up, to be sure, but so are his sins! Terrestrial cannon, like the celestial artillery of the Chronicle, is wonderfully purifying. It does not leave a speck of miasma in the moral atmosphere.

But let us not digress. Monsieur Rejon once said, that Mexico could never be regenerated without a long war with the United States. If we are to believe the Journal of Commerce, this saying has made a profound impression upon the heart of that great Apostle of Liberty, James K. Polk. Revenge—punisher—retribution! Away with them! We become us to prosecute the war in such a manner that we shall relieve the Mexican People of their burdens, instead of adding to them."

Generous again! We will burden ourselves with a debt of a hundred millions, just to relieve the Mexican People from all burdens! Did the all-glorious sun in all his rounds ever shine down upon such a government as ours? It transcends even the benevolence of Christianity, and loves its neighbor better than itself. It corrupts our own people, for the sake of purifying the people of Mexico! It lays the foundation of military oppression in our own country, for the sake of breaking down military despotism in Mexico! It multiplies our burdens fifty-fold, for the sake of ridding Mexico of all burdens! It renders a high tariff necessary in this Union, for the sake of giving free trade to Mexico! "We must do another thing," says the Journal of Commerce man, "and do it immediately—take all the Mexican ports, and give to Mexico through them, what she has never enjoyed—*free trade*."

How thoughtful the American People ought to be, for a Government which entertains so exalted a project as "the complete political, moral and industrial regeneration of Mexico!"

One part of this magnificent plan should especially awaken the pride of the American People—and that is, the propagation of that powerfully regenerating element—Slavery. We will teach the Mexicans how to live without degrading labor. We will confer upon them the elegant leisure secured by Slavery alone, so that they may have abundant time to cultivate the art of self-government, and adorn themselves with all the grace of chivalry—*Ours, we know, is the mission of self-government!*

Conscious then of motives so exalted, what care we for the suspicions of an unbelieving world? Such charges as the following, from the *Journal des Débats*: we will treat with contempt, albeit they have a great deal of verisimilitude.

"The United States will, indeed, get the Oregon, and the Oregon, but has [in Mr. Polk's theory] of non-European settlement or interference will not be admitted by Europe—To compensate themselves for disappointment, he and his votaries have turned to Mexico as a richer prize, will now begin to make their move, and will make this the consequence of Mr. Polk's lost ground with the West by not succeeding entirely in the Oregon case, but he will re-instate himself if he should annex another province of Mexico. What the Americans have done in Mexico, they will do to California in lieu of the Mexican claimants to American cities, and pay it to the claimants. The Californians are an inestimable acquisition; the Americans heretofore offered to buy them; they are an advanced post to China and India, and will be a post to Australia, and associate with the British command of the great ocean and the possession of the Sandwich Islands, the independence of which the British do not intend to allow much longer."

To be serious—this declaration about the regeneration of Mexico, and the propagation of Light and Liberty, is miserable, canting hypocrisy.

**The Parties and the Black Laws.**

The *Advertiser* is making vigorous attacks on Mr. Webb on account of his opposition to the Black Laws, the object being to produce dissatisfaction among the Whigs in the southern part of Ohio. The Whig papers meet these attacks, by publishing the resolutions of their Foreign county Democracy, they might add, those of the Lorain county Democracy, against slavery, and in favor of the repeal of the whole code, and by asserting that Mr. Tod is as deeply in the mud, as Mr. Webb is in the mire. The party-prestes, both Whig and Democrat, generally, seem to think that it is rather a muddy business for their candidates to be in favor of doing justice to the black man. The *Advertiser*, of course, is a Democrat, and was uttering these sentiments. His declarations of abhorrence of slavery, his exposure of the existence of his sentiments, had turned all their energies to the South, where the extension of territory was an extension of Slavery, and where no dangerous enemy could thwart their ambition. The effect of the acquisition of a vast portion of the Mexican territory, would compensate, they calculated, for the restriction of our limits on the North. All this was laid open before the Whigs—and yet, they needed it not—the cry of treason, the spectre of the Hartford Convention frightened them. The President was empowered by their votes, as well as those of his own Party, to do all that he pleased—men and money were voted on the most extravagant scale, by their votes, as well as by Democratic votes. Why, in the name of common sense, did they authorize the President to raise 50,000 volunteers? Were they mad enough to believe that this country was in danger of an invasion from Mexico? Fifty thousand volunteers, beside a regular army of eight thousand men! For what purpose? Ay—did they, when patricially voting a bill to raise this mighty army, and when shooting through their presses till they were hoarse, "Our country right or wrong?" ever ask themselves for what all this vast army was required?

They could not, they did not, believe that it was needed for defense—they must have known that it was to be used for aggressive purposes, for the conquest of territory, as well as of peace. And yet they even outstripped the Democrats in their zeal!

The immense audience which, during the discussion of the party-topic, had been attentive, became enthusiastic while he was uttering these sentiments. His declarations of abhorrence of slavery, his exposure of slaveholding aggression, his calls upon the People of Ohio to maintain their rights, and his denunciations of the Black Laws, were loudly applauded.

This was the first time that a candidate of either of the old political parties had uttered such sentiments in Cincinnati. Who will say that there is not Progress? Who will say that the anti-slavery sentiment of Ohio has not been advanced? Who will say that the abolitionists of Ohio have labored to no purpose? Four years ago, the public expression of such sentiments by a Whig candidate for Governor would not have been tolerated in Cincinnati—would have been deemed, fraught with utter ruin to the Party.

No friend of Mr. Webb will now complain that we have not done him ample justice; but some will wonder, why, after all this, we refuse him our support. And they will be apt to apply Mr. Webster's philosophy of parties. He made a strong appeal to all anti-slavery men—why would they divide themselves, and thus allow the slaveholders to govern them? A Party erected on the basis of one idea could never succeed. For eight years had the anti-slavery party labored, and accomplished nothing—but had not one member to the Legislature. Why not then unite with the Whigs?

The answer to all this is easy. The anti-slavery men for nearly eight years in Ohio, did labor without success. They multiplied their papers, they went on organizing societies, they flooded the Legislature with petitions—but public sentiment was not reached—party-action was unaffected—party continued completely servile to the South, under the domination of the pro-slavery element. Why? We can see no other reason than this—anti-slavery men remained associated with their respective parties, where their influence was disregarded, their wishes despised, and they themselves persecuted. During that period of eight years, no man, knowing such sentiments as those now uttered by Mr. Webb, could have been nominated in most parts of the State, for office.

At the close of that period, the conviction that a new mode of action was necessary. They commenced the work of separating from their parties, and organizing a new political party, on the basis of uncompromising opposition to Slavery. The work went on, until about three

**Mr. Webb's Remarkable Progress in the Duty of Liberty.**

A very large crowd assembled Thursday evening last, in Fifth Street Market Space, to hear the Whig gubernatorial candidate, Mr. Webb. He appeared to be in good trim for speaking, and held his audience, deeply attentive, for nearly two hours. His topics were the manner in which the State debt had been contracted, the Whig Tax-Law, and the Whig Banking Law, Slavery and the Black Laws. He was earnest, fluent, apt in illustration and anecdote, and manifestly familiar with the ordinary subjects and arguments of party-warfare.

His exposure of the above attending the management of our public works was exceedingly severe, and all we regretted was, that a representative of the opposite party was not present to discuss the secrets of Whig management.

The Whig Law was discussed at some length, and it was demonstrated that the principle of it was not only just in itself, but had been sanctioned by the leading men of the Democratic party. In reply to the objection that State stocks were not included within the scope of the Law, he read a statute, passed many years ago, before the public debt was contracted, pledging the faith of the State in advance to exempt State stocks from taxation. He did not say that the Law applied to the whole of them, although he left this to be inferred—and in this respect, we think, he did

not show his usual fitness.

On the Whig Banking Law, he was more brief, though equally decided. On this point, he was ingenious, but, in our opinion, inconclusive, because of founding his argument upon Principle, and upon considerations looking towards unfortunate and permanent results, to which he held the Black Laws, while the Whig candidate for Governor, on the return in Cincinnati, boldly challenges the Democrats to make this a party issue, if they dare?

Will any man of common sense say, that the Liberty Party has accomplished nothing?

True, the Anti-Slavery men, laboring eight

years since, this separation had grown very

general, and the Liberty Party became as well

known and prominent in the nation, as it is,

now numbering but 60,000, it had reckoned one-half of the whole voting population in its ranks.

What were the effects? It brought a pressure to bear upon both the parties, which they could no longer disregard.

In New Hampshire, by the co-operation of the Independents—who voted for its gubernatorial candidate—it succeeded in overthrowing the Democratic Dynasty. In New York, its adherence to its own candidate, during the Presidential election, prevented the Whigs, a year after the election of Mr. Clay. In Ohio, the fear of losing votes by this same party, has compelled the Whigs, year after year, to send Mr. Giddings, an Abolitionist, to Congress. And now, we find the whole Western Reserve, Whigs and Democrats, urging the repeal of the Black Laws, while the Whig candidate for Governor, on the return in Cincinnati, boldly challenges the Democrats to make this a party issue, if they dare?

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The *Advertiser* and the *Whigs*.

The *Advertiser* seems exceedingly anxious

to make the Black Laws the great issue between the Whigs and Democrats. We may be mistaken, but in our opinion, it calculates rather too largely on the power of prejudice against the colored men. We do not think that many white people "would nauseate at confronting negro witness" unless conscious of some criminality which their testimony might bring to light, and as for "associating with negro picnickers," the Southern allies of the *Advertiser*, masters too of the party to which it belongs, have not the slightest objection to that. Why should the servant be better than his master?

But why such misrepresentation? Has not a white Jury sound sense? Can it not be trusted to determine what weight shall be attached to the evidence laid before it?

It is so easy to bring crime to punishment, that we afford no excuse to dispense with the testimony of any class of witnesses, simply because we don't like them? What a remarkably high-minded, reasonable people we are!

And as to the schools—if you are afraid to have a few colored children taught to read in the same room where your children take their lessons, is this any reason why should you refuse to give that much injured class of our school population, their fair proportion of the school funds?

What is gained by imbruting seventeenths of your fellow-beings in the State of Ohio? Do you find pleasure in such a work? Do you add to the reputation of the State?

But all these movements are but the entering wedge. By and by, will there be any men of dark complexions voting—absolutely voting, and thus sharing in the right of self-government? Horrible! Dark-colored men voting! What a miracle of grace that Massachusetts, and Vermont, and New York, have not been ruined, te-totally ruined by the policy of allowing colored people to vote!

Why should the Abolitionist be frightened?

The right of voting will never be extended, unless by the action of a majority of the People; and if a majority should be found in favor of its extension, we doubt not, the *Advertiser* would find as much to scoff at in predictions about "black immigration," as it now finds to denounce in those who are unwilling to have the colored man, treated as if he were no better than a dog.

Instead of preventing to the People from acting in obedience to a sense of Justice, it would be far better employed in trying to prevent its Party from acting as the mere tool of its extension; we doubt not, the *Advertiser* would be successful in inducing the administration of the government, but it can succeed in inducing its principles into other parties, as to control that administration. The triumph of its principles is the *success* it seeks—and the most effective way to secure this triumph, is to stick to them through evil and through good report, always making them paramount, and of course, always voting for their own representatives, until assured beyond all doubt of their adoption by one or more of the general parties of the country.

**Postage—Mr. Hopkins' Bill.**

Mr. Hopkins' bill to raise the rates of postage is now undergoing discussion in the U. S. House of Representatives.

That gentleman must be greatly a loss for something to do. Has any body complained of getting letters and papers too cheap? Have the People found any fault with the Law? Is the Post Office Department running down under its operation?

Never were the People so well satisfied. No measure has passed Congress for many years, which has promoted so much their comfort, and worked so beneficially for their interests. It is precisely one of those measures, in which the masses are specially interested.

A far better amendment than any proposed by Mr. Hopkins would be, the reduction of rates to five cents.

We call therefore upon all Liberty men to work more zealously than ever, for the day dawns and if they will only prove faithful, the hour will soon come when the Principles to which they have consecrated themselves, will control the action of all parties.

**The Whigs—Mr. Polk—Conquest.**

We confess that the policy of the Whigs in relation to the Administration, does not strike us, as being either judicious or magnanimous. They have all at once discovered that the object of Mr. Polk is, to dismember Mexico—to annex California in lieu of the Mexican debts to American citizens, and pay it to the claimants.

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the Americans heretofore offered to buy them;

they are an advanced post to China and India, and will be a post to Australia,

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